

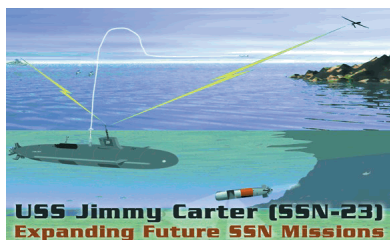


PCU Jimmy Carter (SSN 23)

Commander Naval Submarine Forces

Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet

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CDR ROBERT KELSO UNITED STATES NAVY

Commander Kelso, a native of Tennessee, graduated from Virginia Tech in 1983 with a

Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering, and was commissioned through the NUPOC program. Following graduation, he completed nuclear power training and the Submarine Officer Basic Course prior to assignment aboard USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER (SSN-709). During his tour he served as Torpedo and Fire Control Officer, Chemistry and Radiological Controls Assistant, and Damage Control Assistant.

In August 1988, he reported to the Nuclear Power Training Unit in Balston Spa for instructor duty. While assigned he served as Shift Engineer and Operations Officer at the S8G Prototype. After graduating from the Submarine Officer Advanced Course, Commander Kelso reported as Engineer Officer in USS PENNSYLVANIA (SSBN-735) (GOLD).

Commander Kelso reported in April 1994 to the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs where he was assigned as the Research and Development Programs Officer. During his tour at OLA, Commander Kelso completed a Master's Degree in Engineering Management at Catholic University.

Commander Kelso served as Executive Officer in USS PORTSMOUTH (SSN-707) from June 1996 to May 1998, which deployed to the Western Pacific. Following his Executive Officer tour, Commander Kelso was assigned to the Office of the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff where he served as Deputy Legislative Assistant.

After completion of prospective commanding officer training, Commander Kelso served as Commanding Officer of USS HARTFORD (SSN-768) from March 2001 to June 2003. During his tour, HARTFORD deployed to the CENTCOM AOR in support of "Operation Enduring Freedom". After command of USS HARTFORD, he was assigned as Deputy Commander for Operations at SUBDEVRON TWELVE from July 2003 to January 2004.

The 39th President

PCU Jimmy Carter (SSN 23) is the third and last Seawolf-class submarine and the first Naval vessel named after the 39th president. Former president James Earl Carter, Jr., was the first submariner to become president of the United States.

President Carter graduated from the Naval Academy and served in the Navy as a submarine officer on several boats, including the original USS Seawolf (SSN 575).

PCU Jimmy Carter is something of an oddity. Over 100 feet longer than the other two submarines of the Seawolf class, she is capable of a wide range of missions, including land attack, sea attack and intelligence gathering.

With stealth, agility, speed and firepower, PCU Jimmy Carter is an excellent tool for maintaining peace and security, both key goals of Jimmy Carter's presidency.

When he found out a submarine would be named after him, Jimmy Carter said, "If I had a choice between a submarine and an airport, I'd choose a submarine."

Facts and Figures

Keel Laid: 1998

Commissioned: February 19, 2005

Built By: General Dynamics Electric Boat Division, Groton, CT

Propulsion: One Reactor, One Propeller

Length: 453 feet (138.1 meters)

Beam: 40 feet (12.2 meters)

Draft: 35 feet (10.67 meters)

Displacement: Surfaced: 10,460 tons

Submerged: 12,158 tons

Speed: 20+ knots

Armament: Tomahawk missiles from VLS tubes, 8 torpedo tubes

Homeport: Bangor, Wash

Crew: 12 Officers, 121 Enlisted